

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Examiner's Action mailed August 9, 2004, with a shortened statutory period of three months set to expire November 9, 2004, extended to December 9, 2004. Claims 1-14 are currently pending. Claims 15-16 have been withdrawn from consideration. With this amendment, claims 1, and 4-10 have been amended, claims 2-3 and 11-14 have been canceled, and new claim 17 has been added.

A restriction requirement was made in the Examiner's action. The Examiner stated that since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. The Examiner then withdrew claims 15 and 16 from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention.

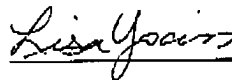
The Examiner then rejected claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,960,451 issued to *Voigt*. Applicants have amended claim 1 to replace the features of pending claim 1 with the features of claim 15. No art has been applied to claim 15 since claims 15-16 were withdrawn from consideration. Therefore, Applicants believe the rejection of claims 1-14 as being anticipated by *Voigt* should be withdrawn because the features of newly amended claim 1 have not yet been considered.

Some examples of support for the amendments to the claims can be found in the specification on page 13, line 1 through page 15, line 2, page 21, line 3 through page 22, line 11, and in Figure 5.

Applicants thank the Examiner for his advice regarding the response to this Examiner's action. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

DATE: 12/9/04

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa L.B. Yociss
Reg. No. 36,975
Yee & Associates, P.C.
P.O. Box 802333
Dallas, TX 75380
(972) 385-8777
Attorney for Applicants